

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for configuring an electronic program guide controller, the electronic program guide controller capable of generating for display on a display device ~~a-an~~ electronic program guide grid pattern containing program cells having associated program lengths, the grid including one or more rows and a plurality of columns, wherein ~~each row corresponds to a program channel, each column represents a predefined period of time, and program cells with lengths exceeding the predefined period of time span multiple columns;~~ the method comprising the steps of:

receiving instructions ~~of a user at~~ an electronic program guide controller, the electronic program guide controller capable of being configured in at least two time shift modes, the received instructions for selecting one of the at least two time shift modes and each of the at least two time shift modes specifying how a time focus is shifted on the electronic program guide grid pattern in response to shift instructions; and

configuring the electronic program guide controller in one of the at least two time shift modes responsive to the received instructions.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least two time shift modes include at least two time shift modes selected from a group of time shift modes consisting of a column time shift mode, a program cell time shift mode, and a user defined time period shift mode.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein one of the at least two time shift modes is a column time shift mode and wherein the method further comprises the step of:

receiving the shift instructions; and

shifting the grid pattern time focus column by column responsive to the shift instructions when the electronic program guide controller is configured in the column time shift mode.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein one of the at least two time shift modes is a program cell time shift mode and wherein the method further comprises the step of:

receiving the shift instructions; and

shifting the grid pattern time focus program cell by program cell responsive to the shift instructions when the electronic program guide controller is configured in the program cell time shift mode.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein one of the at least two time shift modes is a user defined time period shift mode, the received instructions are further for configuring a user defined time period for the user defined time period shift mode, and the method further comprises the step of:

receiving athe shift instructions; and

shifting the grid pattern time focus by the user defined time period responsive to the shift instructions when the electronic program guide controller is configured in the user defined time period shift mode.

6. (Currently Amended) A system for configuring an electronic program guide controller, the electronic program guide controller capable of generating for display on a display device a grid pattern containing program cells having associated program lengths, the grid including one or more rows and a plurality of columns, ~~wherein each row corresponds to a program channel, each column represents a predefined period of time, and program cells with lengths exceeding the predefined period of time span multiple columns,~~ the system comprising:

a device means for configuring an electronic program guide controller capable of being configured in at least two time shift modes responsive to a configuration signal, each of the at least two time shift modes specifying how a time focus is shifted on the electronic program guide grid pattern in response to shift instructions; and

a device means for generating the configuration signal responsive to user received instructions to select one of the at least two time shift modes.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6, wherein one of the at least two time shift modes is a column time shift mode and wherein the system further comprises:

a device means for receiving the shift instructions; and

a device means for shifting the grid pattern time focus column by column responsive to the shift instructions when the electronic program guide controller is configured in the column time shift mode.

8. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6, wherein one of the at least two time shift modes is a program cell time shift mode and wherein the system further comprises:

a device means for receiving the shift instructions; and

a device means for shifting the grid pattern time focus program cell by program cell responsive to the shift instructions when the electronic program guide controller is configured in the program cell time shift mode.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6, wherein one of the at least two time shift modes is a user defined time period shift mode, the received instructions are further for configuring a user defined time period for the user defined time shift mode, and the system further comprises:

a device means for receiving a the shift instructions; and

a device means for shifting the grid pattern time focus by the user defined time period responsive to the shift instructions when the electronic program guide controller is configured in the user defined time period shift mode.

10. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium including software that is configured to control a general purpose computer to implement a method for configuring an electronic program guide controller, the electronic program guide controller capable of generating for display on a display device a grid pattern containing program cells having associated lengths, the grid including one or more rows and a plurality of columns, wherein each row corresponds to a program channel, each column represents a predefined period of time, and program cells with lengths exceeding the predefined period of time span multiple columns, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving instructions ~~of a user~~ at an electronic program guide controller, the electronic program guide controller capable of being configured in at least two time shift modes, the received instructions for selecting one of the at least two time shift modes and each of the at least two time shift modes specifying how a time focus is shifted on the electronic program guide grid pattern in response to shift instructions; and

configuring the electronic program guide controller in one of the at least two time shift modes responsive to the received instructions.

11. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 10, wherein one of the at least two time shift modes is a column time shift mode and wherein the software implemented method further comprises ~~the step of~~:

Receiving the shift instructions; and

shifting the grid pattern time focus column by column responsive to the shift instructions when the electronic program guide controller is configured in the column time shift mode.

12. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 10, wherein one of the at least two time shift modes is a program cell time shift mode and wherein the software implemented method further comprises ~~the step of~~:

receiving the shift instructions; and

shifting the grid pattern time focus program cell by program cell responsive to the shift instructions when the electronic program guide controller is configured in the program cell time shift mode.

13. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 10, wherein one of the at least two time shift modes is a user defined time period shift mode, the received instructions are further for configuring a user defined time period for the user defined time period shift mode, and the software implemented method further comprises ~~the step of~~:

receiving atthe shift instructions; and

shifting the grid pattern time focus by the user defined time period responsive to the shift instructions when the electronic program guide controller is configured in the user defined time shift mode.

14. (Currently Amended) An electronic program guide apparatus capable of receiving an electronic program guide signal and generating for display on a display device a grid pattern containing program cells having associated program lengths from the electronic program guide signal, the grid including one or more rows and a plurality of columns, wherein each row corresponds to a program channel, each column represents a predefined period of time, and program cells having a length that exceeds the predefined period of time span multiple columns, the electronic program guide ~~apparatus~~controller comprising:

a controller that receives instructions ~~of a user to select one of at least two time shift modes~~, the controller configured to receive the electronic program guide signal, to generate the grid pattern from the electronic program guide signal, and to shift the grid pattern time focus responsive to ~~user shift instructions in accordance with the selected one of the at least two time shift modes and each of the at least two time shift modes specifying how the time focus is shifted on the electronic program guide grid pattern in response to the shift instructions~~; and

an on-screen display processor coupled between the controller and the display device, the on-screen display processor being configured to provide the generated grid pattern as a video signal to the display device.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, further comprising:

a transport decoder coupled to the controller, the transport decoder configured to receive the electronic program guide and pass the received electronic program guide to the controller.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising:

a display device coupled to the on-screen display processor configured to display the video signal.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the at least two time shift modes include at least two time shift modes selected from a group of time shift modes consisting of a

column time shift mode, a program cell time shift mode, and a user defined time period shift mode.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein one of the at least two time shift modes is a column time shift mode in which the grid pattern time focus is shifted column by column responsive to the shift instructions when the column time shift mode is selected.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein one of the at least two time shift modes is a program cell time shift mode in which the grid pattern time focus is shifted program cell by program cell responsive to the shift instructions when the program cell time shift mode is selected.

20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein one of the at least two time shift modes is a user defined time period shift mode, the controller further receives instructions to configure a user defined time period for the user defined time period shift mode, and the grid pattern time focus is shifted by the user defined time period responsive to the shift instructions when the user defined time period shift mode is selected.

21. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein each row corresponds to a program channel, each column represents a defined period of time, and program cells with lengths exceeding the predefined period of time span multiple columns.

22. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 10, wherein the computer readable medium is a computer-readable storage medium.